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IBM CORPORATION, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW
DEPT 917, BLDG. 006-1
3605 HIGHWAY 52 NORTH
ROCHESTER, MN 55901-7829

EXAMINER	
BIBBEE, JARED M	
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2161	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/821,228	DETTINGER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jared M. Bibbee	2161	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *17 January 2007*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-44* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-44* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This Office Action has been issued in response to amendment filed on 17 January 2007. Claims 1-44 are pending. Applicants' arguments have been carefully and respectfully considered in light of the instant amendment and are not persuasive, as they relate to the claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 as will be discussed below. Accordingly, this action has been made FINAL.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-12, 14-16, 18-21, 23-25, 27-30, 32-34, 36-38, 40-42, and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Depledge et al (U.S. 5,899,988).

As to independent claim 1, Depledge clearly teaches a computer-implemented method of logically representing relationships between data elements *(Rows of data, Fig. 1)* defined according to a first physical representation of data *(100, Fig. 1) (see column 2, lines 24-36; Note that within the Table 100 there are two relationships being*

defined. First, Customer # is being related to Location. Second, Customer # is being related to Type.), comprising: providing a logical representation of the data *("1" or "0" in 206, Fig. 2A)*, the logical representation *("1" or "0" in 206, Fig. 2A)* abstractly describing a second physical representation of the data *(200, Fig. 2A)*, wherein the second physical representation of the data *(200)* is generated from the first physical representation of the data *(100) (see column 2, lines 50-57; Note that the entry 206 in Fig. 2A indicates which bits have a location of North. In this example bit 2 (202) and bit 6 (204) have a "1" indicating that customer 102 and 106 in the physical representation (100) have a location of North.)*.

Depledge further teaches on the basis of the relationships between the data elements *(Rows of data, Fig. 1)* defined according to the first physical representation of the data *(100)*, determining corresponding relationships between corresponding data structures defined according to the second physical representation of the data *(200) (see Figs. 1 and 2A; Note that a logical relationship is determined based on the data elements located in the first physical relationship (100). The data structures in figures 1 and 2A are tables consisting of rows and columns. The data structure in Figure 2A is defined by the use of bits "1" and "0", which represent the relationship between, in this case, a customer # and a location.)*.

Depledge further teaches generating logical relationships abstractly describing the determined corresponding relationships, each logical relationship defining a path between data structures of the second physical representation *(200) (see Figs. 1 and 2A; Note that a logical relationship is determined based on the data elements located in the first physical relationship (100). The data structures in figures 1 and 2A are tables*

consisting of rows and columns. The data structure in Figure 2A is defined by the use of bits "1" and "0", which represent the relationship between, in this case, a customer # and a location.).

Depledge also teaches associating the generated logical relationships *(202 and 204, Fig. 2A)* with the logical representation of the data *(200, Fig. 2A) (see column 2, lines 50-57; Note that the entry 206 in Fig. 2A indicates which bits have a location of North. In this example bit 2 (202) and bit 6 (204) have a "1" indicating that customer 102 and 106 in the physical representation (100) have a location of North.)*.

As to dependent claim 2, Depledge teaches the limitation where the logical representation comprises a plurality of logical field specifications *(see Fig. 2A; Note that Fig. 2A is a table consisting of columns and rows. The first column corresponds to all of the locations which are represented in the first physical representation (100). The second column is a logical bit representation of the relationship of customer# vs. location.)*, and wherein associating comprises including the generated logical relationships with respective logical field specifications *(see column 2, lines 50-57; Note that the entry 206 in Fig. 2A indicates which bits have a location of North. In this example bit 2 (202) and bit 6 (204) have a "1" indicating that customer 102 and 106 in the physical representation (100) have a location of North.)*.

As to dependent claim 3, Depledge teaches the limitation where the first physical representation of the data is a document in text-based markup language *(see Fig. 1; Note that the table is serving as the document and within the document there are fields which contain text.)*.

As to dependent claim 5, Depledge teaches the limitation where the second physical representation is a relational representation *(see Fig. 2A; Note that for each location represented in the first physical representation (100) there is a set of corresponding bits (202 and 204, Fig. 2A) which represent the column "Location" within the first physical representation (100))*.

As to dependent claim 6, Depledge teaches the limitation where each data structure is a table of the relational representation *(see Fig. 1 and 2A and column 2, lines 24-49)*.

As to dependent claim 7, Depledge teaches the limitation where the first physical representation is a hierarchical representation *(see Fig. 1 and column 2, lines 24-36)* and the second physical representation is a relational representation *(see Fig. 2A and column 2, lines 37-49)*.

As to dependent claim 9, Depledge teaches the limitation where each data structure is a table of the relational representation *(see Fig. 1 and 2A and column 2, lines 24-49)*.

As to dependent claim 10, Depledge teaches the limitation of removing any redundant determined corresponding relationships before generating the logical relationships *(see column 8, lines 23-36)*.

As to independent claim 11, Depledge clearly teaches a computer-implemented method of logically representing relationships between data elements *(Rows of data, Fig. 1)* defined according to a first physical representation of data *(100, Fig. 1) (see column 2, lines 24-36; Note that within the Table 100 there are two relationships being*

defined. First, Customer # is being related to Location. Second, Customer # is being related to Type.), comprising: generating a second physical representation of the data *(200, Fig. 2A)* from the first physical representation *(100) (see column 2, lines 50-57; Note that the entry 206 in Fig. 2A indicates which bits have a location of North. In this example bit 2 (202) and bit 6 (204) have a "1" indicating that customer 102 and 106 in the physical representation (100) have a location of North.)*.

Depledge further teaches generating a logical representation of the data *("1" or "0" in 206, Fig. 2A)* as represented according to the second physical representation *(200)*, the logical representation abstractly describing the second physical representation of the data *(200) (see column 2, lines 50-57; Note that the entry 206 in Fig. 2A indicates which bits have a location of North. In this example bit 2 (202) and bit 6 (204) have a "1" indicating that customer 102 and 106 in the physical representation (100) have a location of North.)*.

Depledge further teaches that on the basis of the relationships between the data elements defined according to the first physical representation of the data, determining corresponding relationships between corresponding data structures defined according to the second physical representation of the data *(200) (see Figs. 1 and 2A; Note that a logical relationship is determined based on the data elements located in the first physical relationship (100). The data structures in figures 1 and 2A are tables consisting of rows and columns. The data structure in Figure 2A is defined by the use of bits "1" and "0", which represent the relationship between, in this case, a customer # and a location.)*.

Depledge further teaches generating logical relationships *(202 and 204, Fig. 2A)* abstractly describing the determined corresponding relationships *(200, Fig.*

2A) (see column 2, lines 50-57; Note that the entry 206 in Fig. 2A indicates which bits have a location of North. In this example bit 2 (202) and bit 6 (204) have a "1" indicating that customer 102 and 106 in the physical representation (100) have a location of North.).

Depledge further teaches including the generated logical relationships with the logical representation *(200, Fig. 2A) (see column 2, lines 50-57; Note that the entry 206 in Fig. 2A indicates which bits have a location of North. In this example bit 2 (202) and bit 6 (204) have a "1" indicating that customer 102 and 106 in the physical representation (100) have a location of North.)*; wherein each of the generated logical relationships describes a path for traversing the second physical representation from a first data structure to a second data structure when processing a query requesting information related to the first and second data structures *(see column 8, lines 47-67 through column 9, lines 1-28).*

As to dependent claim 12, claim 12 is the same as claim 3 and is rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 3 above.

As to dependent claim 14, claim 14 is the same as claim 5 and is rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 5 above.

As to dependent claim 15, claim 15 is the same as claim 6 and is rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 6 above.

As to dependent claim 16, claim 16 is the same as claim 10 and is rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 10 above.

As to independent claim 18, Depledge clearly teaches a computer-implemented method of querying physical data logically represented by a

data abstraction model, wherein the physical data being queried is contained in data structures generated from a data source having a different schema from the data structures containing the physical data being queried *(see Fig. 3; Note the use of a query table (300) to represent the query containing physical data (Type = 'Business') and logical data (Bits '1' and '0').)*, comprising: receiving an abstract query comprising logical fields and corresponding values, wherein each of the logical fields is defined in the data abstraction model and wherein one or more of the logical fields are result fields to be returned by execution of the abstract query *(see Fig. 3 and column 3, lines 4-14; Note that a result bits are calculated using high efficient logic.)*.

Depledge further teaches transforming the abstract query into an executable query capable of being executed against the physical data *(see Fig. 1 and 2A and column 3, lines 22-44; Note that once the location was changed, the values were then changed in the physical data using an executable query which flipped the bits representing the new changed values.)*; wherein the transforming is done using the data abstraction model and wherein the data abstraction model defines a specific path for traversing the data structures containing the physical data to reach the one or more result fields *(see Fig. 3 and column 3, lines 22-44; Note that a bitmap index such as the one showed in Fig 3 (302) is used to map each bit for a given location to the physical data (shown in Fig. 1). The result index (320) represents the bitmap of the physical data as a result of the query terms portrayed in Fig. 3 (i.e TYPE = 'BUSINESS' and LOCATION = 'EAST' or LOCATION = 'SOUTH').)*.

As to claims 19-21, 23-25, and 27-28, claims 19-21, 23-25, and 27-28 are computer-readable medium claims corresponding to method claims 1-3, 5-7, and 9-10, respectively and are rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claims 1-3, 5-7, and 9-10 above. Depledge clearly teaches a computer-readable medium *(407, Fig. 4) (see column 5, lines 23-25).*

As to claims 29-30 and 32-34, claims 29-30 and 32-34 are computer-readable medium claims corresponding to method claims 11-12 and 14-16, respectively and are rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claims 11-12 and 14-16 above.

As to claim 36, claim 36 is a computer-readable medium claim corresponding to method claim 18 and is rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 18 above.

As to dependent claim 37, Depledge clearly teaches the limitation where the specific path is derived from relationships in the data source *(see Fig. 3 and column 3, lines 22-44; Note that a bitmap index such as the one showed in Fig 3 (302) is used to map each bit for a given location to the physical data (shown in Fig. 1). The result index (320) represents the bitmap of the physical data as a result of the query terms portrayed in Fig. 3 (i.e TYPE = 'BUSINESS' and LOCATION = 'EAST' or LOCATION = 'SOUTH').).*

As to claim 38, claim 38 is a computer-readable medium claim corresponding to method claim 3 and is rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 3 above.

As to dependent claim 40, Depledge clearly teaches the limitation where the data structures containing the physical data being queried are arranged according to a relational schema *(see Fig. 2A; Note that for each location represented in the first physical representation (100) there is a set of corresponding bits (202 and 204, Fig. 2A) which represent the column "Location" within the first physical representation (100))*.

As to dependent claim 41, Depledge clearly teaches the limitation where each data structure containing physical data being queried is a database table according to the relational schema *(see Fig. 1 and 2A and column 2, lines 24-49)*.

As to dependent claim 42, Depledge clearly teaches the limitation where the data source is arranged according to a hierarchical representation *(see Fig. 1 and column 2, lines 24-36)* and the data structures containing the physical data being queried define a relational representation *(see Fig. 2A and column 2, lines 37-49)*.

As to independent claim 44, Depledge clearly teaches a data structure residing in memory *(see column 2, lines 24-36 and column 5, lines 8-25)*, comprising: a plurality of logical field specifications *(see Fig. 2A; Note that Fig. 2A is a table consisting of columns and rows. The first column corresponds to all of the locations which are represented in the first physical representation (100). The second column is a logical bit representation of the relationship of customer# vs. location.)*, each abstractly describing at least one of a plurality of data structures defined according to a physical representation of data *(100) (see column*

2, lines 50-57; Note that the entry 206 in Fig. 2A indicates which bits have a location of North. In this example bit 2 (202) and bit 6 (204) have a "1" indicating that customer 102 and 106 in the physical representation (100) have a location of North.), wherein at least one of the plurality of logical field specifications includes one or more logical relationships algorithmically generated from relationship information describing relationships between the data represented according to another physical representation of the data *(see column 2, lines 50-57; Note that the entry 206 in Fig. 2A indicates which bits have a location of North. In this example bit 2 (202) and bit 6 (204) have a "1" indicating that customer 102 and 106 in the physical representation (100) have a location of North.)*, each logical relationship describing a path for traversing the physical representation of the data from a first data structure to a second data structure when processing a query requesting information related to the first and second data structures *(200) (see Figs. 1 and 2A; Note that a logical relationship is determined based on the data elements located in the first physical relationship (100). The data structures in figures 1 and 2A are tables consisting of rows and columns. The data structure in Figure 2A is defined by the use of bits "1" and "0", which represent the relationship between, in this case, a customer # and a location.)*.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 4, 8, 13, 17, 22, 26, 31, 35, 39, and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Depledge in view of Murthy et al (U.S. 2004/0220927 A1).

As to dependent claim 4, note the discussion of claim 3 above, Depledge discloses all of the limitations of claim 3 but fails to explicitly teach the text-based markup language is one of the eXtended Markup Language (XML) and the MicroArray Gene Expression Markup Language (MAGE-ML). However, Murthy clearly teaches the text-based markup language is one of the eXtended Markup Language (XML) and the MicroArray Gene Expression Markup Language (MAGE-ML) *(see para [0031])*. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, having the teachings of Depledge and Murthy before him/her to substitute the document in text-based markup language *(data table (100, Fig. 1))* as taught by Depledge with the XML document as taught by Murthy. The skilled artisan would have been motivated to substitute the document in text-based markup language *(data table (100, Fig. 1))* as taught by Depledge with the XML document as taught by Murthy for the purpose of incorporating World Wide Web/HTML driven databases *(see para [0003])*.

As to dependent claim 8, note the discussion of claim 7 above, Depledge discloses all of the limitations of claim 7 but fails to explicitly teach the hierarchical representation is the eXtended Markup Language (XML).

However, Murthy clearly teaches the hierarchical representation is the eXtended Markup Language (XML) *(see para [0031])*. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, having the teachings of Depledge and Murthy before him/her to substitute the hierarchical data table *(100, Fig. 1)* as taught by Depledge with the XML document as taught by Murthy. The skilled artisan would have been motivated to substitute the hierarchical data table *(100, Fig. 1)* as taught by Depledge with the XML document as taught by Murthy for the purpose of incorporating World Wide Web/HTML driven databases *(see para [0003])*.

As to dependent claim 13, claim 13 is the same as claim 4 and is rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 4 above.

As to independent claim 17, Depledge clearly teaches a computer-implemented method of logically representing relationships between data elements described in a text-based document *(see Depledge column 2, lines 24-36; Note that within the Table 100 there are two relationships being defined. First, Customer # is being related to Location. Second, Customer # is being related to Type.)*, comprising: retrieving a relational database schema for a plurality of data structures, each data structure corresponding to one of the data elements *(see Figs. 1 and 2A; Note that data table 200 conatains data elements (i.e. 206) that consist of bitindex maps of the data table 100. These bitindex maps allow the system to recognize the relationships between data table customer # and location.)*; retrieving a logical representation abstractly describing the relational database schema *(see column 2, lines 50-57; Note*

that the entry 206 in Fig. 2A indicates which bits have a location of North. In this example bit 2 (202) and bit 6 (204) have a "1" indicating that customer 102 and 106 in the physical representation (100) have a location of North.).

Depledge further teaches determining the relationships between the data elements from the text-based document *(see Figs. 1 and 2A; Note that data table 200 conatains data elements (i.e. 206) that consist of bitindex maps of the data table 100. These bitindex maps allow the system to recognize the relationships between data table customer # and location.)*; on the basis of the determined relationships, determining corresponding relationships between corresponding data structures defined according to the relational database schema *(see Figs. 1 and 2A; Note that a logical relationship is determined based on the data elements located in the first physical relationship (100). The data structures in figures 1 and 2A are tables consisting of rows and columns. The data structure in Figure 2A is defined by the use of bits "1" and "0", which represent the relationship between, in this case, a customer # and a location.).*

Depledge further teaches generating logical relationships abstractly describing the determined corresponding relationships; and including the generated logical relationships with the logical representation *(see column 2, lines 50-57; Note that the entry 206 in Fig. 2A indicates which bits have a location of North. In this example bit 2 (202) and bit 6 (204) have a "1" indicating that customer 102 and 106 in the physical representation (100) have a location of North.)*; wherein each of the generated logical relationships describes a path for traversing a relational database constructed according to the relational database schema from a first data structure to a second data structure when processing a query requesting information related to the first and second

data structures *(see Fig. 3 and column 3, lines 22-44; Note that a bitmap index such as the one showed in Fig 3 (302) is used to map each bit for a given location to the physical data (shown in Fig. 1). The result index (320) represents the bitmap of the physical data as a result of the query terms portrayed in Fig. 3 (i.e TYPE = 'BUSINESS' and LOCATION = 'EAST' or LOCATION = 'SOUTH').).*

Depledge does not explicitly disclose the use of a XML document instead of the text-based document. However, Murthy clearly teaches retaining hierarchical information from XML documents rather than text-based documents. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, having the teachings of Depledge and Murthy before him/her to substitute the document in text-based markup language *(data table (100, Fig. 1))* as taught by Depledge with the XML document as taught by Murthy. The skilled artisan would have been motivated to substitute the document in text-based markup language *(data table (100, Fig. 1))* as taught by Depledge with the XML document as taught by Murthy for the purpose of incorporating World Wide Web/HTML driven databases *(see para [0003]).*

As to dependent claim 22, claim 22 is a computer-readable medium claim corresponding to method claim 4 and is rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 4 above.

As to dependent claim 26, claim 26 is a computer-readable medium claim corresponding to method claim 8 and is rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 8 above.

As to dependent claim 31, claim 31 is a computer-readable medium claim corresponding to method claim 4 and is rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 4 above.

As to independent claim 35, claim 35 is a computer-readable medium claim corresponding to method claim 17 and is rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 17 above.

As to dependent claim 39, claim 39 is a computer-readable medium claim corresponding to method claim 4 and is rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 4 above.

As to dependent claim 43, claim 43 is a computer-readable medium claim corresponding to method claim 8 and is rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 8 above.

Response to Arguments

Note:

Applicants' arguments with respect to objections and rejections not repeated herein are moot, as the respective objections and rejections have been withdrawn in light of the instant amendments. Those arguments that still deemed relevant are now addressed below.

A. Applicant Argues:

Depledge does not disclose a method of logically representing relationships between data elements that includes the act of "providing a logical representation of the data, the logical representation abstractly describing a second physical representation of the data, wherein the second physical representation of the data is generated from the first physical representation of the data," as recited in claim 1. Independent claim 11 includes a similar limitation.

Regarding this element of claim 1, the Examiner states "the logical representation ('1' or '0' in 206, Fig. 2A) abstractly describing a second physical representation of the data (200, Fig. 2A)." Office Action, p.6. In this statement, the Examiner asserts that the bits (i.e., 1 or 0) of item 206 teach a "logical representation" that abstractly describes "a second physical representation of the data," which is taught by item 200. However, the Applicants submit that item 206 is a component of item 200. See Depledge, column 2, lines 50-57. Therefore, the Examiner uses the same element (i.e., item 200) to teach both the "logical representation" and the "second physical representation," which are claimed as distinct elements. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is defective and should be withdrawn.

Response:

With respect to Applicant's argument, the argument is not correct and Examiner is not persuaded because Depledge clearly provides a logical representation of the data *(see Figure 2A; Note that the "Bitmap" column logically represents the data in that each bit logically corresponds to the "customer#" column in Figure 1.)*, the logical representation abstractly describes a second physical representation of the data *(see Figure 2A; Note that the "Key" column is a second representation in that it corresponds to all of the possible values for location as shown in Figure 1 under the "Location" column. The "Bitmap" column logically describes the "Key" column by identifying which customer#s correspond to a given location.)*, wherein the second physical representation of the data is generated from the first physical representation of the data *(The "Key" column is generated based on the data portrayed in Figure 1. The "Key" column corresponds to the locations within the data table (100) of Figure 1. By looking at the bitmapped index (200), one can see how each location logically corresponds to each customer#.)*.

The second physical representation is distinct from the logical representation in that the "Key" column represents the possible values for a location in data table (100), whereas the "Bitmap" column represents the location of each customer# in data table (100). Therefore, both representations are two totally different/distinct relationships.

B. Applicant Argues:

Depledge does not teach determining the relationships between data structures of a second physical representation (i.e., between the bits that comprise bitmapped index 200) based on the relationships between data elements of a first physical representation (i.e., between the rows and fields of table 100).

Response:

With respect to Applicant's argument, the argument is not correct and Examiner is not persuaded because Depledge clearly determines corresponding relationships between corresponding data structures defined according to the second physical representation of the data *(see Figs. 1 and 2A; Note that a logical relationship is determined based on the data elements located in the first physical relationship (100). The data structures in figures 1 and 2A are tables consisting of rows and columns. The data structure in Figure 2A is defined by the use of bits "1" and "0", which represent the relationship between, in this case, a customer # and a location.)*.

C. Applicant Argues:

However, the Applicants respectfully submit that the analogy fails to include the recited "path." That is, the cited portions of Depledge (as well as Depledge generally) do not describe a "path" between the bits that comprise bitmapped index 200 (i.e., a path between data structures of the second physical representation). In fact, such a path between bits makes no sense in the context of Depledge. Depledge does not teach the element of generating logical relationships defining paths between data structures of the second physical representation, as recited in claim 1.

Response:

With respect to Applicant's argument, the argument is not correct and Examiner is not persuaded because Depledge teaches generating logical relationships abstractly describing the determined corresponding relationships, each logical relationship defining a path between data structures of the second physical representation *(see Figure 1 and 2A; Note that "Bitmap" column describes a "path" in that each bit corresponds to a customer for a given Location. For example, NORTH would follow the logical path of "0 1 0 0 0 1" in order to determine which customer has a location of NORTH, and so on.)*.

A "Path" given its broadest interpretation in the art is a route through a structured collection of information. Examiner would like to make note that Depledge meets this interpretation in that the "Bitmap" column supplies bits, which define a route in order for a system to logically navigate to the customers which have a location of NORTH.

D. Applicant Argues:

Independent claim 36 is rejected on a similar basis. Here, the Examiner asserts that the bitmapped tables of Depledge (e.g., items 200 and 300) teach the recited element of a data abstraction model that "defines a specific path for traversing the data structures containing the physical data to reach the one or more result fields." Applicants respectfully argue that the bits that comprise the bitmapped tables merely indicate whether a specific value is stored in a record and field of a physical table (i.e., table 100). Further, the bitmapped tables contain no information of any tables other than the physical table. Thus, the bitmapped tables cannot describe a "specific path" across data structures to reach result fields, as recited in claim 18.

Response:

With respect to Applicant's argument, the argument is not correct and Examiner is not persuaded because Depledge teaches defines a specific path

for traversing the data structures containing the physical data to reach the one or more result fields *(see Figure 1 and 2A; Note that "Result" row describes a "path" in that each bit corresponds to a customer for a Location = SOUTH or EAST and Type = BUSINESS. For example, the system would follow the logical path of "1 0 0 1 1 0" in order to present which customer has a location of Location = SOUTH or EAST and Type = BUSINESS.)*.

A "Path" given its broadest interpretation in the art is a route through a structured collection of information. Examiner would like to make note that Depledge meets this interpretation in that the "Result" row supplies bits, which define a route in order for a system to logically present customers which have a Location = SOUTH or EAST and Type = BUSINESS.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the

advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Points of Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jared M. Bibbee whose telephone number is 571-270-1054. The examiner can normally be reached on IFP.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Apu Mofiz can be reached on 571-272-4080. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Apu Mofiz
SPE, TC 2100

JMB